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NAKHICHEVAN' ASSR MEDICAL SERVICE SHOWS PROGRESS

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In 1903, Boleshaya Entsiklopedia described the medical facilities of Nakhichevan' ASSR in some ten words, "Dispensary with four beds, two doctors, two surgeon's assistants, and one bed for maternity use." Much progress has been made since then, and today a medium sized kolkhoz -- for example the Negram Kolkhoz -- has better health facilities than the whole Republic had 45 years ago.

A very satisfactory report on medical facilities in this ASSR was made part of the celebrations of the anniversary of the Great October Revolution. Today there are 19 municipal and rural hospitals and four maternity homes, with a total of 557 beds. In addition, there are 6 ambulatory dispensaries and polyclinics, 7 malaria and tropical disease stations, 3 sanitation epidemiological stations, 6 dermatoto-venereal dispensaries and stations, 5 gyneco-pediatric consultation offices, 14 homes for infants' care, several medical facilities for students, 17 rural ambulatory dispensaries, 48 surgeon's assistants and obstetrical stations, and 40 trachomatosis stations. There are also 18 apothecary points to service the various medical facilities. ASSR populations also have specialized aid. All these institutions are operated by 116 doctors and 353 surgeon's assistants, midwives, and nurses. The 1949 budget for medical aid and services will be approximately 13 million rubles.

Since Nakhichevan' ASSR is primarily an agricultural state, it is natural that the best medical aid should be found in rural communities. Thus, all the large kolkhozes and sovkhozes, such as Nogran, Sadarak, Taydagi, Vanadz, Kivrag, Abrakunis, Dzhagry, Aza, Paraga, and others, have excellent medical facilities.

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The Soviet reign brought with it a program for elimination of trachoma, and other diseases caused by helminths. Much has been accomplished to decrease the number of people suffering from typhus and malaria.

Many of the medical workers of the ASSR, among them Abbasov, Kazaryan, Guseynov, Galustyan, and others, have achieved much in the way of improved medical aid to the peoples of Nakhichevan' ASSR.

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